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City of Columbia Press Releases

July 1-31

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 1, 2015

Contact: Office of Business Opportunities at 803-545-3950

Facade Committee Meeting

The Façade Committee will conduct a meeting today at 10 a.m. at 1225 Lady Street. The agenda is attached for your review.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 1, 2015

Contact: Public Relations, Marketing & Media at 545-3020

City of Columbia Water and Sewer Rate Changes

On Tuesday, June 16, 2015, City Council approved water and sewer rate increases that will take effect on July 1, 2015. To help better understand how the rate increases might affect their bill, customers are encouraged to use the City of Columbia Residential Water/Sewer Bill Estimator located at www.columbiasc.net. This bill estimator shows a comparison of the **Current Rates** and the **Approved Rates** effective July 1, 2015.

This estimator shows what a typical residential customer bill might look like based on meter readings that you provide. It is designed for up to 100 units or 10,000 Ft³ of use in a month on a 3/4" or 5/8" meter. Rates for over 100 units or 10,000 Ft³ of use or for additional meter sizes can be found online at [Water & Sewer Rates](#). For questions about your particular bill, contact the City of Columbia's Customer Care Center at (803) 545-3300.



We Are Columbia

Press Release

Public Relations, Marketing and Media Department
(P) 803-545-3020 | (F) 803-343-8719
pio@columbiasc.net | www.columbiasc.net

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, July 1, 2015

Contact: Victoria Kramer at 545-3227

City to Host North Main Improvements Open House

The City of Columbia will hold an open house for residents, businesses, and stakeholders to learn about updates on the North Main Improvements and Streetscaping Project and related efforts on Tuesday, July 7th from 6-7 PM. The open house will take place at the Eau Claire Print Building at 3907 Ensor Avenue.

City representatives will be on hand to answer questions about a variety of topics, including the North Main Improvements and Streetscaping Project, the successes of the Main/North Main Façade Improvement Program, information on current loan opportunities for businesses along this gateway corridor, and several other topics. Richland County representatives will also be available to talk about Penny Tax projects at work in the City of Columbia.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 1, 2015

Contact: Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

Save the Date for National Night Out Kickoff and Neighborhood Activities

WHAT: The City of Columbia will host its eighth annual National Night Out Kickoff on Thursday, July 30, 2015 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center from 4-9 p.m. Participating neighborhoods will host their own National Night Out activities on Tuesday, August 4, 2015 from 5-9 p.m.

National Night Out is a yearlong community campaign designed to: (1) increase crime prevention awareness; (2) generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs; (3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) send a message to criminals to let them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

WHERE: Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln Street, Columbia, SC, 29201

WHEN: Thursday, July 30, 2015 from 5-9 p.m.

For more information about National Night Out, please contact Community Development at 803-545-3373.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 1, 2015

Contact: Public Relations, Marketing & Media at 545-3020

Celebrate National Picnic Month in the City

Join the City of Columbia in celebrating National Picnic Month, July 1 - 31. We encourage citizens to share photos of their picnics within the City limits, using "#citypicnic2015" on social media. There are many locations in the City to host a picnic including City parks, neighborhood green spaces or your own backyard. Pack a picnic and visit one of the 60 City parks and/or green spaces. To find a park location near you, click [here](#).

For more information, contact the Public Relations Department at 803- 545-3020 or visit columbiasc.net.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 2, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Prime Time in the Parks Provides Recreational Activities for Teens

Prime Time in the Parks, a late-night teen program that provides a fun and safe environment for Columbia's youth, begins Friday, June 12, the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department announced.

The program is free to youth ages 13-18 years old. Prime Time in the Parks features games, sports, music, refreshments and more!

Events are held on the following dates from 8-11 p.m.:

- **Thursday, July 2**
 - o Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue

- o Katheryn M. Bellfield Booker Washington Heights Cultural Arts Center, 2611 Grant Street

- **Friday, July 10**

- o Pinehurst Park, 2300 Pinehurst Road
- o Lorick Park, 1600 Lorick Avenue

- **Friday, July 17**

- o Greenview Park, 6700 David Street
- o Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, 2300 Greene Street

- **Friday, July 24**

- o Pool Party hosted by Greenview, Martin Luther King, Jr. and St. Anna's parks at Maxcy Gregg Pool, 1655 Park Circle

- **Friday, July 31**

- o Pinehurst Park, 2300 Pinehurst Road
- o Lorick Park, 1600 Lorick Avenue

Please note Prime Time in the Parks held at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park will end at 10 p.m.

For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100 or visit <http://www.columbiasc.net/parks-recreation/programs/youth>.



For Immediate Release

Friday, July 2, 2015

Contact: Sara Hollar, Forestry and Beautification at 545-3860

SCE&G To Perform Tree Trimming Activities As Scheduled for 2015

SCE&G will perform tree trimming activities, and re-conductor work along overhead utility lines in the following neighborhoods for the next two weeks:

Distribution Line Tree Trimming:

Arsenal Hill Neighborhood Organization

Elmwood Park Neighborhood Organization

Cottontown/Bellevue Historic District

Pinehurst Community Council

Midland Terrace Neighborhood

Druid Hills Neighborhood Association

Forest Hills North

Rochelle Heights/Victory Gardens

Bradley Community Council

Godbold Place Homeowners

Re-conductor Projects

Shandon

Wales Garden

Bradley Community Council

Godbold Place Homeowners

Citizens with specific questions or concerns should contact Forestry and Beautification at 803-545-3860 or SCE&G at 1-800-251-7234 to meet and discuss in advance of the work being completed.

The trimming will be completed by SCE&G contractors and work will be closely monitored by the City's 4 Certified Arborists from the Forestry and Beautification Division.

The purpose of the trimming activities is to increase safety and reliability of the electric service. SCE&G reports an 89% improvement in reliability in vegetation related outages in areas where trimming is completed compared to a year ago. The trimming guidelines include removing vegetation within 8-12 feet below and beside the power lines and up to 20 feet above the power lines.

SCE&G and their contractors trim in accordance with International Society of Arboriculture guidelines, using ANSI A300 pruning methods leaving good cuts that will generate new growth.

SCE&G's re-conductor work includes pole replacements and new wire in select locations. The goal of re-conductor work is to improve reliability.

For more information about SCE&G's tree trimming efforts, including helpful tips and suggestions regarding the planting of trees and other vegetation, visit www.sceg.com/treetrimming.

You can also contact SCE&G's 24 hour Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-800-251-7234 or email SCEGContactUs@SCANA.com

For continued updates from the city of Columbia follow us on Twitter [@cityofcolumbia](https://twitter.com/cityofcolumbia) or "like" the [City of Columbia](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcolumbia) on Facebook



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 2, 2015

Contact: Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

City Offices to Close in Observance of Independence Day

City of Columbia offices will be closed on Friday, July 3, 2015 in observance of Independence Day.

All garbage and recycle routes will remain on schedule.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 03, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Summer Movies Series at Riverfront Park

The City of Columbia's Summer Movies Series is underway at Riverfront Park located at 312 Laurel Street.

Movies are held on Friday nights through July 31.

The following movies are free and open to the public:

- July 3: "Home"
- July 10: "The Book of Life"
- July 17: "Rio 2"
- July 24: "Ferngully: The Last Rainforest"
- July 31: "The Croods"

There will be face painting, games and more fun prior to the start of the film. Activities begin at 7 p.m. Face painting will be available for a nominal fee.

Attendees can bring blankets, lawn chairs and coolers. No glass containers and alcoholic beverages allowed.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saturday, July 04, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

City of Columbia to Host Capital City Beach Party

Fireworks Show Begins at 10 p.m./Street Closing Announced

Bring the family out for a day of beach fun at the Capital City Beach Party **today, July 4** at Finlay Park.

The Capital City Beach Party will feature a sand volleyball exhibition, beach games, a limbo contest, karaoke, **music from the Original Tams**, fireworks and more!

WHAT: Capital City Beach Party

WHERE: Finlay Park, 930 Laurel Street

(*Please note that the 1400 block of Wayne Street will be closed due to the fireworks show.)

WHEN: Saturday, July 4 from 2 to 10 p.m. (The Original Tams are scheduled to perform at 8 p.m. The fireworks show begins at 10 p.m.)

COST: Admission to the Capital City Beach Party is **FREE**. There are fees for face painting, and food and craft vendors.

Attendees are welcome to bring blankets or towels and beach chairs. No pets allowed.

*Please note that the 1400 block of Wayne Street will be closed due to the fireworks show. For more information about road closures for Slide the City, please contact the Columbia Police Department at 803-545-3500. Slide the City is being sponsored by the Columbia Regional Sports Council.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 6, 2015

Contact: Marli Drum at 803-776-PETS

The City's Pet of the Week: Snowball! (ID# A215765)

Snowball is a one-year-old fun loving domestic short hair cat. She loves attention and doesn't mind playing with other pets. Snowball is also spayed and microchipped.

Visit Snowball and other pets available for adoption at the Columbia Animal Shelter, 127 Humane Lane. Visit www.columbiasc.net/animal-services or call 803-776-PETS for more information.

In honor of the Fourth of July, Columbia Animal Shelter is teaming up with Richland and Lexington Counties to offer pet adoptions for \$17.76 through July 7.

All of our pets need loving homes! To view other animals available for adoption, visit Petfinder.com. Please refer to the ID number listed above when visiting the website.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Contact: Planning Division at 803-545-3222

Design Development Review Commission Meeting Agenda

The Design Development Review Commission will conduct a meeting on Thursday, July 9, 2015 at 4 p.m. The agenda is attached.

This agenda, past agendas and the approved minutes of previous meetings can also be found at <http://www.columbiasc.net/planning-boards-commissions/ddrc/agendas-minutes>.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Contact: Dee Dee Fanning at (803) 545-3048

Advertisement of Vacancies on the Commercial Revolving Loan Review Board

The City of Columbia is accepting applications for the Commercial Revolving Loan Review Board. Individuals applying for this board must be a Community Banker or a Small Business Owner.

The purpose of this committee is to review and approve/disapprove applications for loans from the City of Columbia Commercial Revolving Loan Fund.

The term of office is two (2) years.

All applicants must reside within Columbia city limits.

Deadline – Applications are due no later than Aug. 1, 2015 5 p.m.

For applications and more information contact Dee Dee Fanning at (803) 545-3048 or send a request to gdfanning@columbiasc.net. You can also visit our website at <http://www.columbiasc.net/boards-commissions> to download an application.



MEDIA ADVISORY

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Contact: Samantha Yager at 803-331-2052

City of Columbia Solid Waste Division to Announce Recycling Program Improvements

WHAT: The City of Columbia Solid Waste Division will unveil improvements and changes to the current curbside recycling program. The Recycling Partnership has partnered with the City of Columbia by investing \$300,000 in Columbia's recycling program.

WHO: Columbia City Council, The Recycling Partnership representatives and partners, City staff and community supporters.

WHERE: City Hall (front steps)

1737 Main St. Columbia, SC 29201

WHEN: Tuesday, July 14 at 10 a.m.

For more information about the City of Columbia's recycling program, please visit www.columbiasc.net or contact Samantha Yager at 803-545-3803. For more information about the Recycling Partnership, please visit <http://www.recyclecurbside.org/>.



for immediate release

Thursday, July 9, 2015

Contact: Michael Wukela, Office of the Mayor @ 803-413-5052

Mayor Benjamin releases statement on SC House vote on Confederate Flag

Columbia, SC – Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin released the following statement today following the South Carolina House of Representatives' vote to remove the Confederate Battle Flag from the Statehouse grounds:

“This moment is about more than a flag or a vote. It’s about the hope that now, 150 years after the end of the Civil War, we have grown beyond our differences and have begun to grow together. This is not the end of division, of prejudice or of hate. But it is the beginning of something new and if we can hold on to it and to each other, if we can nurture that hope and help it grow, then we will have something more precious than a history. We will have a future.”

For information, contact Michael Wukela at mcwukela@columbiasc.net or 803-413-5052.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 09, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Prime Time in the Parks Provides Recreational Activities for Teens

Prime Time in the Parks is a late-night teen program that provides a fun and safe environment for Columbia's youth. The program is free to youth ages 13-18 years old.

Prime Time in the Parks features games, sports, music, refreshments and more!

Events are held on the following dates from 8-11 p.m.:

- **Friday, July 10**
 - o Pinehurst Park, 2300 Pinehurst Road
 - o Lorick Park, 1600 Lorick Avenue
- **Friday, July 17**
 - o Greenview Park, 6700 David Street
 - o Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, 2300 Greene Street

- **Friday, July 24**
 - o Pool Party hosted by Hyatt Park, Booker Washington Heights, Pinehurst and Lorick parks at Maxcy Gregg Pool, 1655 Park Circle

- **Friday, July 31**
 - o Pinehurst Park, 2300 Pinehurst Road
 - o Lorick Park, 1600 Lorick Avenue

Please note Prime Time in the Parks held at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park will end at 10 p.m.

For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100 or visit <http://www.columbiasc.net/parks-recreation/programs/youth>.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 9, 2015

Contact: Erica Wade at 803-545-4433

Bonding Education Program Workshop Series

Are you a contractor looking to be bonded or increase bonding capacity? The City's Office of Business Opportunities is hosting a Bonding Education Program for small contractors on Thursdays, July 9 – 30, 2015 from 6-9 p.m. Contractors who successfully complete all courses will be bonded.

To be eligible to participate in the Bonding Education Program, the business must be a small, disadvantaged, and/or women-owned business within the definition established by the federal or state DOT (Department of Transportation); must be certified as such by the State; must have been in business for a minimum of two years; must have an annual revenue of \$250,000; must have at least two employees; must have past performance in construction industry; and must be interested in securing initial bonding or a bonding limit increase.

The cost of the workshop is free and seats are limited. To register, click [here](#).



for immediate release

Friday, July 10, 2015

Contact: Michael Wukela, Office of the Mayor @ 803-413-5052

Mayor Benjamin Releases Statement on Confederate Flag Removal

Columbia, SC – Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin released the following statement today in response to the removal of the Confederate flag from the South Carolina State House grounds:

"The creed of our great state is Dum Spiro Spero--While I breathe I hope. Today is a day that millions have hoped for and our collective joy is representative of what South Carolinians and all people of good will can accomplish when we come together.

Now as we breathe the clear air as One South Carolina my hope is that this new sense of promise and purpose will continue to allow us to move our state forward together. God Bless Columbia, God Bless South Carolina & God Bless the United States of America."

For information, contact Michael Wukela at mcwukela@columbiasc.net or 803-413-5052



For Immediate Release

Friday, July 10, 2015

Contact: Sara Hollar, Forestry and Beautification at 545-3860

SCE&G To Perform Tree Trimming Activities As Scheduled for 2015

SCE&G will perform tree trimming activities, and re-conductor work along overhead utility lines in the following neighborhoods for the next two weeks:

Distribution Line Tree Trimming:

Arsenal Hill Neighborhood Organization

Elmwood Park Neighborhood Organization

Cottontown/Bellevue Historic District

Pinehurst Community Council

Midland Terrace Neighborhood

Druid Hills Neighborhood Association

Forest Hills North

Rochelle Heights/Victory Gardens

Bradley Community Council

Godbold Place Homeowners

Re-conductor Projects

Shandon

Wales Garden

Bradley Community Council

Godbold Place Homeowners

Citizens with specific questions or concerns should contact Forestry and Beautification at 803-545-3860 or SCE&G at 1-800-251-7234 to meet and discuss in advance of the work being completed.

The trimming will be completed by SCE&G contractors and work will be closely monitored by the City's 4 Certified Arborists from the Forestry and Beautification Division.

The purpose of the trimming activities is to increase safety and reliability of the electric service. SCE&G reports an 89% improvement in reliability in vegetation related outages in areas where trimming is completed compared to a year ago. The trimming guidelines include removing vegetation within 8-12 feet below and beside the power lines and up to 20 feet above the power lines.

SCE&G and their contractors trim in accordance with International Society of Arboriculture guidelines, using ANSI A300 pruning methods leaving good cuts that will generate new growth.

SCE&G's re-conductor work includes pole replacements and new wire in select locations. The goal of re-conductor work is to improve reliability.

For more information about SCE&G's tree trimming efforts, including helpful tips and suggestions regarding the planting of trees and other vegetation, visit www.sceg.com/treertrimming.

You can also contact SCE&G's 24 hour Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-800-251-7234 or email SCEGContactUs@SCANA.com

For continued updates from the city of Columbia follow us on Twitter [@cityofcolumbia](https://twitter.com/cityofcolumbia) or "like" the [City of Columbia](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcolumbia) on Facebook



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 13, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

City Kickers Soccer League Registration Open

The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department is now accepting registrations for its City Kickers Soccer League.

Children ages 3-14 can play in the youth soccer program. The fee to participate is \$25 per participant. Scholarships are available to those who qualify.

The last day to register is Sunday, August 16, 2015. The City Kickers Soccer League season begins the week of September 14, 2015.

Registration forms are available and can be submitted at any community recreation center or at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office at 1111 Parkside Drive, Columbia, SC 29203.

To download a registration form, visit the Parks & Recreation's [Athletics page online](#) and click on "Youth Registration Form."

For more information, please call the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 13, 2015

Contact: Marli Drum at 803-776-PETS

The City's Pet of the Week: Cotes! (ID# A215700)

Cotes is a two-year-old Boxer mix. She's looking for an owner that will give her a lot of attention. Cotes is also spayed and microchipped. Once you meet her, you'll know if she's right for you!

Visit Cotes and other pets available for adoption at the Columbia Animal Shelter, 127 Humane Lane. Visit www.columbiasc.net/animal-services or call 803-776-PETS for more information.

All of our pets need loving homes! To view other animals available for adoption, visit Petfinder.com. Please refer to the ID number listed above when visiting the website.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 13, 2015

CONTACT: Connie Lucius, Office of the City Council at 803-545-4268

Advertisement of Vacancy for the City of Columbia Climate Protection Action Committee (CPAC)

The City of Columbia is accepting applications to fill two (2) vacancies on the Climate Protection Action Committee.

The purpose of this committee is to identify measures that can be taken to reduce greenhouse gases. CPAC was initiated to impact climate change, but now also serves as the City's unofficial environmental clearing house, focusing on air quality, energy conservation, water conservation and recycling/waste reduction. Term – 2 years.

All applicants must reside within Columbia city limits.

Deadline – Applications are due no later than July 27, 2015, 5 p.m.

For applications and more information contact Connie Lucius at (803) 545-4268 or send a request to cflucius@columbiasc.net. You can also visit our website at <http://www.columbiasc.net/boards-commissions> to download an application.



MEDIA ADVISORY

Monday, July 13, 2015

Contact: Samantha Yager at 803-331-2052

City of Columbia Solid Waste Division to Announce Recycling Program Improvements

WHAT: The City of Columbia Solid Waste Division will unveil improvements and changes to the current curbside recycling program. The Recycling Partnership has partnered with the City of Columbia by investing \$300,000 in Columbia's recycling program.

WHO: Columbia City Council, The Recycling Partnership representatives and partners, City staff and community supporters.

WHERE: City Hall (front steps)

1737 Main St. Columbia, SC 29201

WHEN: Tuesday, July 14 at 10 a.m.

For more information about the City of Columbia's recycling program, please visit www.columbiasc.net or contact Samantha Yager at 803-545-3803. For more information about the Recycling Partnership, please visit <http://www.recyclecurbside.org/>.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 13, 2015

Contact: Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

The City to Host Eighth Annual National Night Out Kickoff Event

The City of Columbia will host its eighth annual National Night Out Kickoff event on Thursday, July 30, 2015 from 4-9 p.m. at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, located at 1101 Lincoln Street.

This year's kickoff event will include safety demonstrations, kid-friendly activities and free giveaways. Additionally, there will be live entertainment featuring The Blythewood Jazz Orchestra, a 22 piece band; food vendors including Oprah Winfrey Network's 2 Fat 2 Fly; and community partner exhibitors.

National Night Out is a yearlong community-building campaign designed to: (1) heighten crime prevention awareness, (2) generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs, (3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and (4) send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

On Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2015, participating Columbia neighborhoods will host their own National Night Out activities. Additional details will be announced regarding neighborhood activities.

For more information, please contact the Columbia Police Department at 803-545-3500, Community Development at 803-545-3373 or www.ColumbiaSC.net.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Contact: Planning Division at 803-545-3222

Design Development Review Commission Special Meeting Agenda

The Design Development Review Commission will conduct a meeting on Thursday, July 16, 2015 at 12 p.m. The agenda is attached.

The meeting will be held in at 1136 Washington Street, in the 3rd floor conference room.



MEDIA ADVISORY

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Contact: Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

City of Columbia Solid Waste Division to Announce Recycling Program Improvements

WHAT: The City of Columbia Solid Waste Division will unveil improvements and changes to the current curbside recycling program. The Recycling Partnership has partnered with the City of Columbia by investing \$300,000 in Columbia's recycling program.

WHO: Columbia City Council, The Recycling Partnership representatives and partners, City staff and community supporters.

WHERE: City Hall (front steps)

1737 Main St. Columbia, SC 29201

WHEN: Tuesday, July 14 at 10 a.m.

For more information about the City of Columbia's recycling program, please visit www.columbiasc.net or contact Samantha Yager at 803-545-3803. For more information about the Recycling Partnership, please visit <http://www.recyclecurbside.org/>.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Contact: Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

City of Columbia Tosses the Bin for Recycling Roll Carts

Today, at a press conference, the City of Columbia Solid Waste Division announced that the curbside recycling program will be upgraded from the 18-gallon bins to 95-gallon roll carts for residents.

“Today, the City of Columbia has taken a major step toward expanding our efforts to build a greener community. The new recycling roll carts will not only be beneficial to our citizens, but they will also enhance the city’s ability to significantly increase the amount of recyclable items collected in our recycling program. These types of initiatives are good examples of the Build Columbia platform and help us to run, grow and transform our city,” says City Manager Teresa Wilson.

The new changes were made possible in part by the Recycling Partnership. The Recycling Partnership uses public-private partnerships to help local governments get the most out of the recycling program. The City applied for the grant early in 2014 and was announced a winner in September 2014.

The Recycling Partnership has invested \$300,000 in the City's recycling program and has provided integral technical assistance to better enhance the program. Columbia is one of four inaugural cities in the grant program.

“The Recycling Partnership is very proud to partner with the City of Columbia as an inaugural city partner. The City has all the pieces in place to drive a dramatic increase in material recovery. We especially appreciate the commitment of City officials and staff and resident's readiness to embrace a modern recycling program,” says Executive Director Keefe Harrison.

With the roll cart upgrade, citizens will have five times the capacity for recycling and projections show a 500 percent increase in pounds per household collected. Currently, City residents average 75 pounds per household in recycling. The new roll carts also present the expectation that the garbage tonnage will decrease.

Carts will start being delivered on Monday, July 27, 2015. The delivery process will take approximately two weeks. The delivery crew will work Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Residents will receive an information packet with the cart that contains a letter, kitchen magnet and service card. Once residents receive the new cart, the new collection schedule will be effective immediately. Residents can keep the blue bin for indoor use or recycle it in the new cart.

Recycling will now be collected twice per month. Garbage and yard waste will remain on a weekly collection schedule. Beginning July 27, residents can visit www.columbiasc.net to download a collection calendar and sign up for reminder notifications or download the free Columbia, SC Solid Waste app on their smartphone. The mobile app is available in the Apple App Store and Google Play.

The City's curbside recycling program began in 1991 with the 18-gallon bins. Throughout the past 24 years, the City has expanded its recycling program to businesses, restaurants and bars. Ongoing education and outreach efforts are targeted

to increase the recycling participation rate and bring awareness to how recycling benefits the community.

For more information about the City of Columbia's recycling program, please visit www.columbiasc.net or call Samantha Yager at 803-545-3803. To learn more about The Recycling Partnerships work in the community, please visit www.recyclecurbside.org.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Mayor Steve Benjamin to Host 6th Annual Back-To-School Drills & Skills Clinics

Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin is hosting the 6th Annual Back-to-School Drills & Skills Clinics for youth ages 6-17 from August 3-7, 2015.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn instructional skills in a variety of sports in this weeklong clinic held at several parks in the city. Clinics are free and open to the public. The clinics will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at each location. **Registration ends Friday, July 24, 2015.**

Registration has begun for the following clinics:

Basketball Clinic

- **Boys ages 6-9:** Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue

- **Boys ages 10-13:** Greenview Park, 6700 David Street
- **Boys and girls ages 14-17:** Martin Luther King Jr. Park, 2300 Greene Street
- **Girls ages 6-13:** Pinehurst Park, 2300 Pinehurst Road

Tennis Clinic

- **Boys and girls ages 6-17:** Columbia Tennis Center, 1635 Whaley Street (No previous skills required to participate. Please wear white loose fitting clothes, tennis shoe, and hat or visor.)

Golf Clinic

- **Boys and girls ages 6-17:** James E. Clyburn Golf Center, 2091 Slighs Avenue

Soccer Clinic

- **Boys and girls ages 6-17:** Capital City Stadium, 301 S. Assembly Street

Cheerleading

- **Girls ages 6-13:** Greenview Park, 6700 David St. and Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, 2300 Greene St.

The week ends with a skills competition on Friday, August 7, at the following parks: Greenview, Hyatt, Pinehurst and Martin Luther King Jr. The skills competitions will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Back-to-school supplies will be given to those participating in the clinics at the City's annual Back-to-School Bash on Saturday, August 8 at Finlay Park, 930 Laurel Street. The bash will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Registration ends Friday, July 24, 2015. Registration forms can be submitted in the following ways:

- In person at any City recreation centers (Click to visit the Parks and Recreation's ["Parks & Facilities" page](#) online.)
- In person at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 1111 Parkside Drive

- Online at <http://gate.columbiasc.gov/back2schooldrills>

For more information, please contact the City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Contact: Angelo McBride at 803-545-3960

Small Business Compliance and Legal Issues Workshop

The City's Office of Business Opportunities is hosting a legal workshop for small businesses on Wednesday, July 15, 2015 at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Nexsen Pruet, LLC, 1230 Main Street, Suite 700. Small business owners will have the opportunity to learn about tax structure, contracts and liability issues.

It is critical for small business owners to know the laws they must comply with to operate a successful and sustainable business. The Small Business Legal Issues workshop will give attendees the tools to take of their investment.

The cost of the workshop is \$15 and seats are limited. To register, click [here](#).



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 15, 2015

Contact: Planning Division at 803-545-3222

Design Development Review Commission Special Meeting Agenda

The Design Development Review Commission will conduct a meeting on Thursday, July 16, 2015 at 12 p.m. The agenda is attached.

The meeting will be held in at 1136 Washington Street, in the 3rd floor conference room.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 16, 2015

Contact: Community Development at 803-545-3373

Loan Committee Meeting Agenda

The Loan Committee will conduct a meeting on Monday, July 20, 2015 at 9 a.m. The agenda is attached for your review.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 17, 2015

CONTACT: Connie Lucius-Bailey, Office of the City Council at 803-545-4268

Advertisement of Vacancies on Various Boards and Commissions

The City of Columbia is accepting applications to fill several vacancies on the following boards and commissions.

Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

Seeking six (6) Applicants.

The purpose of BPAC is to advise the Mayor and City Council Members, the City of Columbia transportation planning staff; community organizations; and partners on bicycling and pedestrian issues facing the city; to work toward development of bicycle/pedestrian master plan; to represent community and constituent interests in transportation planning decisions; and to provide feedback to staff on projects relating to walking and bicycling. Current appointees need to re-apply for consideration. Term – 2 years.

-

Board of Zoning Appeals

Seeking three (3) Applicants.

Hear and decide appeals when someone claims that the Zoning Administrator had made an error in any order, requirement, decision or determination in enforcing the zoning ordinance; The Board of Zoning Appeals may grant special exceptions for uses that the City Council believes are generally permissible but require review and approval on a case-by-case basis to ensure secondary impacts do not adversely impact traffic; vehicle and pedestrian safety; adjoining property in terms of noise, lights, fumes, and air flow; the aesthetic character of the environs; and the orientation and spacing of buildings ; and may grant a variance to certain provisions of the Zoning Ordinance where a literal enforcement of the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance would result in unnecessary hardship, provided that the spirit of the Zoning Ordinance shall be observed, public safety and welfare secured, and substantial justice done. Term – 3 years.

Columbia Music Festival*Seeking one (1) Applicant.*

Educate, discover, develop, train, assist and promote the musical and artistic talents of the area's citizens; to produce, present, and promote the best in the performing arts through arts organizations and artists; to provide centralized management, administrative and production services and coordinating for its member arts organizations and artists; to coordinate volunteer services for the member arts affiliate organizations; and to serve as an arts council in support of its member affiliate organizations. Term – 4 years.

Historic Columbia Foundation*Seeking one (1) Applicant.*

Historic Columbia Foundation's mission is to nurture, support and protect the historical and cultural heritage of Columbia and its environs through programs of advocacy, education and preservation. Term – 4 years.

-

Parks and Recreation Foundation

Seeking four (4) Applicants.

Columbia Parks and Recreation Foundation enhances the leisure service opportunities in the City of Columbia by improving the scope and quality of educational and human development programs. It encourages, recruits, receives, and administers gifts, devises, and donations by deed, will or otherwise, for the advancement of the City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department. Term – 3 years.

-

Property Maintenance Board of Adjustment and Appeals

Seeking seven (7) Applicants who are qualified by experience and training (i.e. architect, contractor, engineer, property manager) to pass on matters pertaining to property maintenance.

The purpose of the Property Maintenance Board of Adjustment and Appeals is to hear appeals of notices or decisions issued under the International Property Maintenance Code. Term – 3 years.

Richland County Board of Assessment Appeals

Seeking one (1) Applicant.

The Board of Assessment Appeals purpose is to equalize the value of the real and personal property of Richland County and to hear all grievances and appeals from the valuation and assessments by the Assessor. Term – 3 years.

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Deadline – Applications are due no later than August 12, 2015, 5 p.m.

For applications and more information contact Connie Lucius- Bailey at (803) 545-4268 or send a request to cflucius@columbiasc.net. You can also visit our website at <http://www.columbiasc.net/boards-commissions> to download an application.

###



For Immediate Release

Friday, July 17, 2015

Contact: Sara Hollar, Forestry and Beautification at 545-3860

SCE&G To Perform Tree Trimming Activities As Scheduled for 2015

SCE&G will perform tree trimming activities, and re-conductor work along overhead utility lines in the following neighborhoods for the next two weeks:

Distribution Line Tree Trimming:

Arsenal Hill Neighborhood Organization

Elmwood Park Neighborhood Organization

Cottontown/Bellevue Historic District

Pinehurst Community Council

Midland Terrace Neighborhood

Druid Hills Neighborhood Association

Forest Hills North

Rochelle Heights/Victory Gardens

Bradley Community Council

Godbold Place Homeowners

Re-conductor Projects

Shandon

Wales Garden

Bradley Community Council

Godbold Place Homeowners

Citizens with specific questions or concerns should contact Forestry and Beautification at 803-545-3860 or SCE&G at 1-800-251-7234 to meet and discuss in advance of the work being completed.

The trimming will be completed by SCE&G contractors and work will be closely monitored by the City's 4 Certified Arborists from the Forestry and Beautification Division.

The purpose of the trimming activities is to increase safety and reliability of the electric service. SCE&G reports an 89% improvement in reliability in vegetation related outages in areas where trimming is completed compared to a year ago. The trimming guidelines include removing vegetation within 8-12 feet below and beside the power lines and up to 20 feet above the power lines.

SCE&G and their contractors trim in accordance with International Society of Arboriculture guidelines, using ANSI A300 pruning methods leaving good cuts that will generate new growth.

SCE&G's re-conductor work includes pole replacements and new wire in select locations. The goal of re-conductor work is to improve reliability.

For more information about SCE&G's tree trimming efforts, including helpful tips and suggestions regarding the planting of trees and other vegetation, visit www.sceg.com/treetrimming.

You can also contact SCE&G's 24 hour Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-800-251-7234 or email SCEGContactUs@SCANA.com

For continued updates from the city of Columbia follow us on Twitter [@cityofcolumbia](https://twitter.com/cityofcolumbia) or "like" the [City of Columbia](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcolumbia) on Facebook



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 17, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Mayor Steve Benjamin to Host 6th Annual Back-To-School Drills & Skills Clinics

Registration ends Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin is hosting the 6th Annual Back-to-School Drills & Skills Clinics for youth ages 6-17 from August 3-7, 2015.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn instructional skills in a variety of sports in this weeklong clinic held at several parks in the city. Clinics are free and open to the public. The clinics will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at each location. **Registration ends Tuesday, July 28, 2015.**

Registration has begun for the following clinics:

Basketball Clinic

- **Boys ages 6-9:** Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue
- **Boys ages 10-13:** Greenview Park, 6700 David Street
- **Boys and girls ages 14-17:** Martin Luther King Jr. Park, 2300 Greene Street
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Soccer Clinic

- **Boys and girls ages 6-17:** Capital City Stadium, 301 S. Assembly Street

Cheerleading

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The week ends with a skills competition on Friday, August 7, at the following parks: Greenview, Hyatt, Pinehurst and Martin Luther King Jr. The skills competitions will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Back-to-school supplies will be given to those participating in the clinics at the City's annual Back-to-School Bash on Saturday, August 8 at Finlay Park, 930 Laurel Street. The bash will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Registration ends Tuesday, July 28, 2015. Registration forms can be submitted in the following ways:

- In person at any City recreation centers (Click to visit the Parks and Recreation's ["Parks & Facilities" page](#) online.)

- In person at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 1111 Parkside Drive
- Online at <http://gate.columbiasc.gov/back2schooldrills>

For more information, please contact the City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 17, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

City's Annual Summer Movies and Concert Series

The City of Columbia's Parks and Recreation Department kicked off their annual summer movie and concert series in June.

The Summer Movie Series is held at Riverfront Park, every Friday through July 31. Riverfront Park is located at 312 Laurel Street. The series features family-friendly entertainment through games, face painting and more prior to the start of the movie. The event begins at 7 p.m.

Every other Saturday through August 15, the Summer Concert Series is held at Finlay Park, 930 Laurel Street. The annual concert series showcases a variety of musical acts, providing entertainment for a diverse audience. The concerts are held from 8 - 10 p.m.

All concerts and movies are free and open to the public.

Summer Movies Series at Riverfront Park:

- July 17: "Rio 2"
- July 24: "Ferngully: The Last Rainforest"
- July 31: "The Croods"

Summer Concert Series at Finlay Park:

- July 18: Glenn Jones

- August 1: LTD
- August 15: Midnight Star

Attendees can bring blankets and lawn chairs. No glass containers, alcoholic beverages or tents allowed.

Coolers are permitted at the Summer Movies Series. Vendors are available at the Summer Concert Series.

For more information, please visit the [Parks and Recreation Department's Calendar of Events](#) or call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 17, 2015

Contact: Columbia Housing Development Corporation at 803-545-3767

Lyon Street Project Ribbon Cutting

WHAT: The Columbia Housing Development Corporation is hosting a ribbon cutting for the completion of six reconstructed homes in the Lyon Street Community. Two homes will be available for touring.

WHO: Mayor Steve Benjamin, Columbia City Council members, City Manager Teresa Wilson, City Staff, Columbia Housing Development Corporation Board members, South Carolina Housing & Urban Development Field Office Director Larry Knightner and community stakeholders.

WHERE: 2533 and 2521 Washington Street, Columbia, SC

WHEN: Thursday, July 30, 2015 at 10 a.m.

For more information, contact Columbia Housing Development Corporation at 803-545-3767.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 20, 2015

Contact: Office of the City Clerk at 803-545-3045

City Council Meeting Agenda

The Columbia City Council will meet on Tuesday, July 21, 2015 at 6 p.m. The agenda is attached for your review.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 20, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Riverfront Park Pedestrian Bridge to Close

The pedestrian bridge at Riverfront Park will be closed beginning 6 a.m. on Tuesday, July 21, 2015, due to the construction of an ADA ramp.

Riverfront Park will remain open during the installation. Visitors may enter the park through the north entrance located off Broad River Road.

For more information, please contact the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 20, 2015

Contact: Marli Drum at 803-776-PETS

The City's Pet of the Week: Circe! (ID# A216199)

Circe is a one-year-old domestic short hair cat. If you're looking for a cat, you're guaranteed to fall in love with her! Circe is also spayed and microchipped.

Visit Circe and other pets available for adoption at the Columbia Animal Shelter, 127 Humane Lane. Visit www.columbiasc.net/animal-services or call 803-776-PETS for more information.

All of our pets need loving homes! To view other animals available for adoption, visit Petfinder.com. Please refer to the ID number listed above when visiting the website.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 20, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Mayor Steve Benjamin to Host 6th Annual Back-To-School Drills & Skills Clinics

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Cheerleading

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- In person at any City recreation centers (Click to visit the Parks and Recreation's ["Parks & Facilities" page](#) online.)
- In person at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 1111 Parkside Drive
- Online at <http://gate.columbiasc.gov/back2schooldrills>

For more information, please contact the City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 20, 2015

Contact: Marli Drum at 803-776-PETS

Christmas in July Adoption Specials

WHAT: Columbia Animal Shelter is teaming up with Richland and Lexington Counties to offer pet adoptions for \$25 on July 25, 27 and 28. All adoption fees include spay/neuter, microchip, Feline Leukemia/Heartworm Test, initial vaccines and deworming.

WHERE: Columbia Animal Services, 127 Humane Lane, Columbia, SC and Lexington Animal Services, 321 Ball Park Rd, Lexington, SC

WHEN: July 25, July 27 and July 28

COST: \$25

For more information about Columbia Animal Services' adoption specials, please contact Marli Drum at 803-776-7387.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 20, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Fall Sports Registration Open for Adult Softball and Adult Coed Kickball Leagues

The City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department is accepting registrations for several fall adult sports leagues including Men's Softball, Coed Softball, and Coed Kickball.

Participants in the citywide leagues have the opportunity to play, practice good sportsmanship and expand their athletic skills.

The leagues are open to adults ages 18 and older.

Men's Adult Softball

WHEN: Tuesdays at T.S. Martin Park

FEE: \$300 per team

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 31, 2015

SEASON BEGINS: August 18, 2015

INFO: The season will include 10 officiated games and a tournament at the end of the season

Coed Adult Softball

WHEN: Sundays at T.S. Martin Park

FEE: \$300 per team

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 31, 2015

SEASON BEGINS: August 18, 2015

INFO: The season will include 10 officiated games and a tournament at the end of the season

Coed Adult Kickball

WHEN: Mondays (Non-competitive) and Wednesdays (Competitive)

FEE: \$300 per team

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 31, 2015

SEASON BEGINS: August 17, 2015

INFO: The season will include 10 officiated games. Balls will be provided.

To register, please visit the Parks and Recreation Department's Administration Office at 1111 Parkside Drive, Columbia, SC 29203.

To download a registration form, visit the department's ["Adult Sports" page online](#).

The registration form and payment can be mailed to Parks Administration. Make checks and money orders payable to the City of Columbia. Registrations will not be accepted without payment.

For more information, please call Parks & Recreation at 803-545-3100 or email cetaylor@columbiasc.net.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 20, 2015

Contact: Office of the City Clerk at 803-545-3045

Updated City Council Meeting Agenda

The Columbia City Council will meet on Tuesday, July 21, 2015 at 6 p.m. The updated agenda is attached for your review.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 21, 2015

CONTACT: Public and Media Relations Department @ 803-545-3020

City of Columbia Announces #LoveColumbia 2015 Winners

The #LoveColumbia Photo Challenge is a City initiative that encouraged citizens of Columbia to submit photos via social media of the images they love in the City. Through the photo challenge, citizens were invited to explore our picturesque city.

The City of Columbia Photo Challenge, #LoveColumbia, began in 2014 as a way to increase community engagement, expand public knowledge of the City's social media sites and increase the use of technology to interact with citizens.

"I enjoy seeing our citizens participate in celebrating Columbia as much as I do," said City Manager Teresa Wilson. "This contest and the level of participation are exemplary of the pride that our citizens have for their hometown. The city, along with our citizens, business owners and the arts community, are building a world-class city together."

The #LoveColumbia Photo Challenge was promoted on the City’s Facebook, Instagram and Twitter sites during May 2014, where citizens were tasked with submitting images, which included landscapes, structures, buildings, historical monuments and more. Based on the total number of “likes, favorites, retweets, etc.,” there were three photos chosen from each social media account. The voting process was driven by citizen participation, which included the option to vote and comment on the photo of their choice.

“We are thrilled to present an opportunity that allows our citizens to share what they love about Columbia,” stated Public and Media Relations Director Leshia Utsey. “Whether it’s taking a walk at Riverfront Park or watching fireworks on New Year’s Eve, the City of Columbia offers something special for everyone to love.”

With over 400 votes placed online, the participation this year helped make the #LoveColumbia Photo Challenge a success. The contest provided a way for citizens to positively capture the City through photography and the winning photographs highlight that beauty.

The following winners will unveil their images today, July 21, 2015, during the City Council meeting.

- Facebook – Frederick Austin
- Instagram – Tony Claremont
- Twitter – Sally Rickenbacker

The winning photos and biography for each winner will be featured in the City of Columbia’s Report to the Community, the city’s website, in the Public and Media Relations Department’s publications and on display in the Gallery at City Hall.

For more information about the #LoveColumbia Photo Challenge, contact Public and Media Relations at 803-545-4418.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 21, 2015

Contact: Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

The City to Host Eighth Annual National Night Out Kickoff Event

The City of Columbia will host its eighth annual National Night Out Kickoff event on Thursday, July 30, 2015 from 4-9 p.m. at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, located at 1101 Lincoln Street.

This year's kickoff event will include safety demonstrations, kid-friendly activities and free giveaways. Additionally, there will be live entertainment featuring The Blythewood Jazz Orchestra, a 22 piece band; food vendors including Oprah Winfrey Network's 2 Fat 2 Fly; and community partner exhibitors.

National Night Out is a yearlong community-building campaign designed to: (1) heighten crime prevention awareness, (2) generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs, (3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and (4) send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

On Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2015, participating Columbia neighborhoods will host their own National Night Out activities. Additional details will be announced regarding neighborhood activities.

For more information, please contact the Columbia Police Department at 803-545-3500, Community Development at 803-545-3373 or www.ColumbiaSC.net.



We Are Columbia

Press Release

Public Relations, Marketing and Media Department
(P) 803-545-3020 | (F) 803-343-8719
pio@columbiasc.net | www.columbiasc.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, June 21, 2015

Contact: Public Relations, Marketing & Media at 545-3020

City Takes Steps to Help Citizens Stay Cool During Heat Wave

In response to the dangerously hot temperatures, the City of Columbia will take steps to assist the community in keeping cool. The City of Columbia Fire Department along with Parks and Recreation have set up misting stations in the following locations. These misting stations will be in operation from 12:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., when the heat index reaches 90 degrees or higher.

Misting Stations:

Owens Field, 1351 Jim Hamilton Blvd.

Rosewood Park, 901 South Holly St.

Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Ave.

Martin Luther King (MLK) Park, 2300 Greene St (corner of Greene & Pendleton Streets)

Finlay Park, 930 Laurel St.

Riverfront Park, 312 Laurel St.

The City of Columbia also offers a number of other ways to stay cool this summer. The following is a list of Splash Pad and Pool locations that are open to the public:

Splash Pad Locations (Operates Monday through Friday from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 4 p.m. - 7 p.m., through Labor Day, September 7, 2015):

***Mays Park**, 4100 Trenholm Rd.

Sims Park, 3500 Duncan St.

Heathwood Park, 800 Abelia Rd.

Emily Douglas Park, 2500 Wheat St.

***Roy Lynch Park**, Lincoln and Abbeville St.

Pinehurst Park, 2300 Pinehurst Rd. (Open Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.)

Lorick Park, 1600 Lorick Ave. (Open Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.)

Edisto Discovery Park, 1914 Wiley St.

***Pacific Park**, 200 Wayne St.

St. Anna's Park, 1315 Liberty Hill Ave.

Hampton Park, 117 Brandon Ave.

Melrose Park, 1500 Fairview Rd.

Drew Park - 2101 Walker Solomon Way (*Operates Monday – Saturday from 12 p.m. – 8 p.m.*)

All splash pads are free of charge and closed on Sundays.

****Please note that splash pads that are unmanned (Mays, Roy Lynch and Pacific) will be turned on/off upon request by calling 545-3100.***

Maxcy Gregg Pool

1655 Park Circle

Open Monday through Thursday from 1 p.m. – 7 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Recreational Swimming at Maxcy Gregg: \$3 youth (ages 12 & under), \$4 for adults (ages 13 & over)

Season tickets: \$80 (ages 12 & under), \$120 (ages 13 & over)

Group passes: \$75 (child), \$100 (adults)

-

Fan the Heat

If you are working or playing outside take breaks and drink plenty of fluids. Also, remember to check on elderly neighbors in your neighborhood.

Chief Skip Holbrook and the City of Columbia Police Department kicked off the Fan the Heat program in May, and since its inception has assisted more than 7,000 Columbia citizens.

The program is primarily designed for senior citizens, residents with medical concerns/disabilities and families with small children.

Eligibility requirements include:

- Citizens must be 55 years-old or older
- Citizens must provide name, address, telephone number (to ensure that the fan or air conditioner is delivered to the correct address)

Exception:

- If person has respiratory problem or a major illness, he or she can bring in a doctor's statement regardless of age to receive assistance.

If a citizen needs assistance from the Fan the Heat program, they can call the Crime Prevention Unit at 545-3555; or CPD's Telephone Response Unit at 545-3500.

Anyone can be affected by the heat of the summer sun and the Columbia Fire Department encourages the citizens of the City of Columbia to follow the heat safety tips below:

Heat Safety Tips:

- Supervise children – children rely on adults to tell them when to come inside, when to drink water, and what sort of clothing to wear. It doesn't take long for a child's small body to become overheated.
- Dress lightly and when sleeping use lightweight breathable covers.
- Drink plenty of water.

- People who live in homes with no air conditioning should keep blinds closed from morning until the late afternoon to block extra direct heat from sunlight. Also, stay on the lowest level of your home.
- If you see any of the exhaustion signs listed below get out of the heat immediately. Give the person plenty of cool fluids and wipe them down with cool cloths. If they don't improve rapidly call 911.
- Never ever leave a child or pet in the car while you run to do a quick errand!

The signs of heat exhaustion include:

- Clammy skin
- Loss of color in skin
- Sweating
- A tired, overestimated look on someone's face
- Dry mouth
- Headache

The signs of major heat stroke:

- High body temperatures – (over 103 degrees F)
- Confusion
- Poor breathing – if you can't hear a person breathing it can indicate a problem
- Seizures
- The person has stopped sweating
- Weak pulse
- Hot dry skin to the touch

- Fainting or total loss of consciousness

For more information concerning staying safe in the heat, visit the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control's website <http://www.scdhec.gov> and for information on heat warnings visit National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Weather Service's website, <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/heat/index.shtml>.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 21, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin Invites Youth to Participate in 6th Annual Mayor's Back-to-School Drills & Skills Clinics

WHAT: Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin will hold a press conference on **Wednesday, July 22 at 10 a.m.** to invite the public to register for the 6th Annual Mayor's Back-to-School Drills & Skills Clinics.

Drills & Skills offers a weeklong instructional clinic for youth to expand their skills in a variety of sports. This year, the clinics will feature basketball, tennis, golf, soccer and cheerleading. The clinics will be held August 3-7, 2015, at various locations across the City.

WHO: Mayor Steve Benjamin will be joined by local youth who will demonstrate soccer drills.

WHERE: Capital City Stadium, 301 S. Assembly Street

WHEN: Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at 10 a.m.

For more information, please call Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or email smbell@columbiasc.net.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

City of Columbia to Host 2015 Back-to-School Bash

The City of Columbia's 2015 Back-to-School Bash — a free event for elementary, middle and high school students — will be held on Saturday, August 8 at Finlay Park.

The bash will feature a book bag and school supply giveaway, health screenings, a health and wellness zone, entertainment, fitness challenges, exhibitors and more! Children must be present to receive a book bag and school supplies.

The event is free and open to the public.

WHERE: Finlay Park, 930 Laurel Street, Columbia, SC 29201

WHEN: Saturday, August 8, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, please call 803-545-3100 or email kcmitchell@columbiasc.net.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Contact: Customer Care Center at (803) 545-3300

Traffic Disruption at Hardscrabble Road from Powell to El Hunter Roads for Water Main Repair

Hardscrabble Road between Powell and El Hunter Roads, including the Hardscrabble Road bridge over Interstate 77, will be closed until further notice as repairs are made following a water main break in the area. Customers traveling through the area should expect traffic disruptions and delays.

On July 22, 2015, a twelve inch water main broke disrupting service to several homes in the area and resulting in a Boil Water Advisory. Service has been restored, and the City anticipates lifting the Boil Water Advisory for the area soon. However, the above portions of Hardscrabble Road will remain closed until further notice so additional repairs can be made to the water line and the roadway.

City crews are working diligently to complete the repairs. For questions, call the City of Columbia's Customer Care Center at (803) 545-3300.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 24, 2015

Contact: Sara Hollar, Forestry and Beautification at 545-3860

SCE&G To Perform Tree Trimming Activities As Scheduled for 2015

SCE&G will perform tree trimming activities, and re-conductor work along overhead utility lines in the following neighborhoods for the next two weeks:

Distribution Line Tree Trimming:

Arsenal Hill Neighborhood Organization

Elmwood Park Neighborhood Organization

Cottontown/Bellevue Historic District

Pinehurst Community Council

Midland Terrace Neighborhood

Druid Hills Neighborhood Association

Forest Hills North

Rochelle Heights/Victory Gardens

Bradley Community Council

Godbold Place Homeowners

Re-conductor Projects

Wales Garden

Bradley Community Council

Godbold Place Homeowners

Citizens with specific questions or concerns should contact Forestry and Beautification at 803-545-3860 or SCE&G at 1-800-251-7234 to meet and discuss in advance of the work being completed.

The trimming will be completed by SCE&G contractors and work will be closely monitored by the City's 4 Certified Arborists from the Forestry and Beautification Division.

The purpose of the trimming activities is to increase safety and reliability of the electric service. SCE&G reports an 89% improvement in reliability in vegetation related outages in areas where trimming is completed compared to a year ago. The trimming guidelines include removing vegetation within 8-12 feet below and beside the power lines and up to 20 feet above the power lines.

SCE&G and their contractors trim in accordance with International Society of Arboriculture guidelines, using ANSI A300 pruning methods leaving good cuts that will generate new growth.

SCE&G's re-conductor work includes pole replacements and new wire in select locations. The goal of re-conductor work is to improve reliability.

For more information about SCE&G's tree trimming efforts, including helpful tips and suggestions regarding the planting of trees and other vegetation, visit www.sceg.com/treetrimming.

You can also contact SCE&G's 24 hour Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-800-251-7234 or email SCEGContactUs@SCANA.com

For continued updates from the city of Columbia follow us on Twitter [@cityofcolumbia](https://twitter.com/cityofcolumbia) or "like" the [City of Columbia](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcolumbia) on Facebook.



For Immediate Release

July 24, 2015

Contact: Michael Wukela, Office of the Mayor @ 803-413-5052

Mayor Benjamin and Gamecock Men's Basketball Team

Join Together for My Brother's Keeper Columbia Event

Columbia, SC – Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin and members of the University of South Carolina Gamecock Men's Basketball Team will be helping local youth develop team-working skills today at 3:00pm at Greenview Park as part of Mayor Benjamin's My Brother's Keeper Columbia initiative.

WHAT: My Brother's Keeper Columbia Meet and Greet

Mayor Steve Benjamin and the USC Men's Basketball Team

WHEN: 3:00 pm Friday July 24, 2015

WHERE: Greenview Park

6700 David St.

Columbia, SC 29203

The event is not open to the public though media is encouraged to attend.

For more information contact Michael Wukela at 803-413-5052 or via email at mcwukela@columbiasc.net.



For Immediate Release

Friday, July 24, 2015

Contact: Samantha Yager at 803-331-2052

Council to Kick Off Recycling Carts Delivery

WHAT: City of Columbia residents will be able to recycle more with the delivery of a blue, 95-gallon roll cart. To kick off delivery, Columbia City Council will be delivering carts in the Arsenal Hill neighborhood.

WHO: Columbia City Council, City Manager Teresa Wilson, City staff, Recycling Wizard and community leaders.

WHERE: 1700 block of Wayne St. Columbia, SC 29201

WHEN: Monday, July 27, 2015 at 10 a.m.

The delivery company, WasteRec, is scheduled to start delivery on Monday, July 27 and deliver all of the carts within two weeks. The crews will be working Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Please take caution when passing the crews on the streets.

For more information about the new recycling program, please visit www.columbiasc.net or call the Solid Waste Division at 803-545-3800.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 27, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Mayor Steve Benjamin to Host 6th Annual Back-To-School Drills & Skills Clinics

Registration Ends Tuesday, July 28

Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin is hosting the 6th Annual Back-to-School Drills & Skills Clinics for youth ages 6-17 from August 3-7, 2015.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn instructional skills in a variety of sports in this weeklong clinic held at several parks in the city. Clinics are free and open to the public. The clinics will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at each location. **Registration ends Tuesday, July 28, 2015.**

Registration has begun for the following clinics:

Basketball Clinic

- **Boys ages 6-9:** Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue
- **Boys ages 10-13:** Greenview Park, 6700 David Street
- **Boys and girls ages 14-17:** Martin Luther King Jr. Park, 2300 Greene Street
- **Girls ages 6-13:** Pinehurst Park, 2300 Pinehurst Road

Tennis Clinic

- **Boys and girls ages 6-17:** Columbia Tennis Center, 1635 Whaley Street (No previous skills required to participate. Please wear white loose fitting clothes, tennis shoe, and hat or visor.)

Golf Clinic

- **Boys and girls ages 6-17:** James E. Clyburn Golf Center, 2091 Slighs Avenue

Soccer Clinic

- **Boys and girls ages 6-17:** Capital City Stadium, 301 S. Assembly Street

Cheerleading

- **Girls ages 6-13:** Greenview Park, 6700 David St. and Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, 2300 Greene St.

The week ends with a skills competition on Friday, August 7, at the following parks: Greenview, Hyatt, Pinehurst and Martin Luther King Jr. The skills competitions will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Back-to-school supplies will be given to those participating in the clinics at the City's annual Back-to-School Bash on Saturday, August 8 at Finlay Park, 930 Laurel Street. The bash will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Registration ends Tuesday, July 28, 2015. Registration forms can be submitted in the following ways:

- In person at any City recreation centers (Click to visit the Parks and Recreation's ["Parks & Facilities" page](#) online.)

- In person at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 1111 Parkside Drive
- Online at <http://gate.columbiasc.gov/back2schooldrills>

For more information, please contact the City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department at 803-545-3100



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 27, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Fall Sports Registration Open for Adult Softball and Adult Coed Kickball Leagues

The City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department is accepting registrations for several fall adult sports leagues including Men's Softball, Coed Softball, and Coed Kickball.

Participants in the citywide leagues have the opportunity to play, practice good sportsmanship and expand their athletic skills.

The leagues are open to adults ages 18 and older.

Men's Adult Softball

WHEN: Tuesdays at T.S. Martin Park

FEE: \$300 per team

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 31, 2015

SEASON BEGINS: August 18, 2015

INFO: The season will include 10 officiated games and a tournament at the end of the season

Coed Adult Softball

WHEN: Sundays at T.S. Martin Park

FEE: \$300 per team

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 31, 2015

SEASON BEGINS: August 18, 2015

INFO: The season will include 10 officiated games and a tournament at the end of the season

Coed Adult Kickball

WHEN: Mondays (Non-competitive) and Wednesdays (Competitive)

FEE: \$300 per team

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 31, 2015

SEASON BEGINS: August 17, 2015

INFO: The season will include 10 officiated games. Balls will be provided.

To register, please visit the Parks and Recreation Department's Administration Office at 1111 Parkside Drive, Columbia, SC 29203.

To download a registration form, visit the department's ["Adult Sports" page online.](#)

The registration form and payment can be mailed to Parks Administration. Make checks and money orders payable to the City of Columbia. Registrations will not be accepted without payment.

For more information, please call Parks & Recreation at 803-545-3100 or email cetaylor@columbiasc.net.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 27, 2015

Contact: Marli Drum at 803-776-PETS

The City's Pet of the Week: Eeyore! (ID# A216075)

Eeyore is a five-month-old pit hound mix. He's quiet but once you get to know him, he'll love you forever! Eeyore is also neutered and microchipped.

Visit Eeyore and other pets available for adoption at the Columbia Animal Shelter, 127 Humane Lane. Visit www.columbiasc.net/animal-services or call 803-776-PETS for more information.

All of our pets need loving homes! To view other animals available for adoption, visit Petfinder.com. Please refer to the ID number listed above when visiting the website.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 27, 2015

Contact: Marli Drum at 803-776-PETS

Christmas in July Adoption Specials

WHAT: Columbia Animal Shelter is teaming up with Richland and Lexington Counties to offer pet adoptions for \$25 on July 25, 27 and 28. All adoption fees include spay/neuter, microchip, Feline Leukemia/Heartworm Test, initial vaccines and deworming.

WHERE: Columbia Animal Services, 127 Humane Lane, Columbia, SC and Lexington Animal Services, 321 Ball Park Rd, Lexington, SC

WHEN: July 25, July 27 and July 28

COST: \$25

For more information about Columbia Animal Services' adoption specials, please contact Marli Drum at 803-776-7387.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 27, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

City of Columbia to Host 2015 Back-to-School Bash

The City of Columbia's 2015 Back-to-School Bash — a free event for elementary, middle and high school students — will be held on Saturday, August 8 at Finlay Park.

The bash will feature a book bag and school supply giveaway, health screenings, a health and wellness zone, entertainment, fitness challenges, exhibitors and more! Children must be present to receive a book bag and school supplies.

The event is free and open to the public.

WHERE: Finlay Park, 930 Laurel Street, Columbia, SC 29201

WHEN: Saturday, August 8, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, please call 803-545-3100 or email kcmitchell@columbiasc.net.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Contact: Columbia Housing Development Corporation at 803-545-3767

Lyon Street Project Ribbon Cutting

WHAT: The Columbia Housing Development Corporation is hosting a ribbon cutting for the completion of six reconstructed homes in the Lyon Street Community. Two homes will be available for touring.

WHO: Mayor Steve Benjamin, Columbia City Council members, City Manager Teresa Wilson, City Staff, Columbia Housing Development Corporation Board members, South Carolina Housing & Urban Development Field Office Director Larry Knightner and community stakeholders.

WHERE: 2533 and 2521 Washington Street, Columbia, SC

WHEN: Thursday, July 30, 2015 at 10 a.m.

For more information, contact Columbia Housing Development Corporation at 803-545-3767.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Contact: Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

The City to Host Eighth Annual National Night Out Kickoff Event

The City of Columbia will host its eighth annual National Night Out Kickoff event on Thursday, July 30, 2015 from 4-9 p.m. at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, located at 1101 Lincoln Street.

This year's kickoff event will include safety demonstrations, kid-friendly activities and free giveaways. Additionally, there will be live entertainment featuring The Blythewood Jazz Orchestra, a 22 piece band; food vendors including Oprah Winfrey Network's 2 Fat 2 Fly; and community partner exhibitors.

National Night Out is a yearlong community-building campaign designed to: (1) heighten crime prevention awareness, (2) generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs, (3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and (4) send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

On Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2015, participating Columbia neighborhoods will host their own National Night Out activities. Additional details will be announced regarding neighborhood activities.

For more information, please contact the Columbia Police Department at 803-545-3500, Community Development at 803-545-3373 or www.ColumbiaSC.net.



Thursday, July 30, 2015

Contact: City of Columbia Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

City to Announce New Pay by Phone Parking App

WHAT: The City of Columbia Parking Services Department will announce a new pay by phone parking application from Passport.

With Passport's mobile payment system, residents and visitors can use mobile parking payment technology in all of the City's 5,000 parking spaces. The app, developed by Charlotte, NC-based Passport, is free to download and gives users a much simpler option than paying at the parking meter.

WHO: Mayor Steve Benjamin, Columbia City Council, City staff and members of the Passport team.

WHERE: City Hall (front steps)

1737 Main St. Columbia, SC 29201

WHEN: Monday, August 3, 2015 at 10 a.m.

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About Passport

Passport is the industry-leading mobile payments company specializing in integrated urban mobility solutions. The company provides feature rich software platforms that offer parking and transit agencies a more effective and efficient way to manage their operations and serve their customers. Passport's mobile payment systems are deployed in over 1,000 locations in 43 states and provinces across the US and Canada, with clients such as Chicago, Toronto and Boston.

Headquartered in Charlotte, NC, Passport is backed by a highly respected group of investors, including Grotech Ventures and Relevance Capital. For more information, please visit www.gopassport.com



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 30, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Fall Sports Registration Open for Adult Softball and Adult Coed Kickball Leagues

Registration Ends Friday, July 31, 2015

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Participants in the citywide leagues have the opportunity to play, practice good sportsmanship and expand their athletic skills.

The leagues are open to adults ages 18 and older.

Men's Adult Softball

WHEN: Tuesdays at T.S. Martin Park

FEE: \$300 per team

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 31, 2015

SEASON BEGINS: August 18, 2015

INFO: The season will include 10 officiated games and a tournament at the end of the season

Coed Adult Softball

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FEE: \$300 per team

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 31, 2015

SEASON BEGINS: August 18, 2015

INFO: The season will include 10 officiated games and a tournament at the end of the season

Coed Adult Kickball

WHEN: Mondays (Non-competitive) and Wednesdays (Competitive)

FEE: \$300 per team

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 31, 2015

SEASON BEGINS: August 17, 2015

INFO: The season will include 10 officiated games. Balls will be provided.

To register, please visit the Parks and Recreation Department's Administration Office at 1111 Parkside Drive, Columbia, SC 29203.

To download a registration form, visit the department's ["Adult Sports" page online.](#)

The registration form and payment can be mailed to Parks Administration. Make checks and money orders payable to the City of Columbia. Registrations will not be accepted without payment.

For more information, please call Parks & Recreation at 803-545-3100 or email cetaylor@columbiasc.net.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 30, 2015

Contact: Columbia Housing Development Corporation at 803-545-3767

Columbia Housing Development Corporation Holds Ribbon Cutting for New Homes

The Columbia Housing Development Corporation and its Board of Directors held a ribbon cutting for the newly constructed homes in the Lyon Street community on Thursday, July 30, 2015 at 10 a.m.

Attendees had the opportunity to tour the homes located at 2521 Washington Street and 2533 Washington Street. The remaining homes are located at 1322 McDuffie Street, 1318 McDuffie Street, 1312 McDuffie Street and 1302 McDuffie Street. All six homes are on the market for purchase.

“When I look at this project, I don’t just see quality affordable homes,” said Mayor Benjamin. “I see Thanksgiving dinner and Christmas morning. I see children doing their homework at the kitchen table and playing in the yard. I see birthdays and anniversaries and all the milestones that make up our lives shared and cherished by friends and family and I see it all happening here.”

“Each of these homes is a dream come true for a hard-working family, a piece of the American Dream made possible, and we are made stronger as a city and a people because of it.”

The homes were built to provide affordable homeownership options in the City limits. Low interest rate financing is available to qualifying families and individuals through the City’s loan programs and their partner banks. The City’s Community Development Department provided \$738,715 in federal HOME funds to finance this project.

“Homeownership is the foundation for building strong neighborhoods and Columbia is proud of our continuous progress with building new homes across the city,” said City Manager Teresa Wilson. “New houses bring a new sense of vitality and energy to a neighborhood and that energy is then transferred throughout the entire community. Once these houses are filled with families they truly become homes and the new residents become stakeholders in their new neighborhood.”

The two-story floor plan is 1278 square feet and comprise of three bedrooms with two and one-half baths and the single-story floor plan is 1365 square feet with three bedrooms and two full baths. Additional features include:

- Stainless steel appliance packages to include washer and dryer
- Over the range microwave
- Tank-less water heater
- Kitchen backsplash and recessed lighting
- Cultured marble bathroom counter tops
- Crown molding in master bedroom and great room
- Two-inch faux blinds and smooth ceilings

“The Lyon Street community is being revived one home at a time and starting its history over,” said Alvin Lemon, prospective buyer. “I look forward to the new beginning.”

For more information, contact the Columbia Housing Development Corporation at 803-545-3767.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 30, 2015

Contact: Zoning Division at 803-545-3333

Planning Commission Meeting Agenda

The Planning Commission will meet at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, August 3rd, at City Hall (City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor), 1737 Main Street. The agenda is attached for your review.

This agenda, past agendas, and the approved minutes of previous meetings can also be found here: www.columbiasc.gov/planning-boards-commissions/pc/agendas.

Should you have questions regarding items on this agenda, please contact [Zoning Division](#) at 803-545-3333.



For Immediate Release

Friday, July 31, 2015

Contact: Sara Hollar, Forestry and Beautification at 545-3860

SCE&G To Perform Tree Trimming Activities As Scheduled for 2015

SCE&G will perform tree trimming activities, and re-conductor work along overhead utility lines in the following neighborhoods for the next two weeks:

Distribution Line Tree Trimming:

Arsenal Hill Neighborhood Organization

Elmwood Park Neighborhood Organization

Cottontown/Bellevue Historic District

Pinehurst Community Council

Midland Terrace Neighborhood

Druid Hills Neighborhood Association

Forest Hills North

Rochelle Heights/Victory Gardens

Bradley Community Council

Godbold Place Homeowners

Re-conductor Projects

Shandon

Wales Garden

Bradley Community Council

Godbold Place Homeowners

Citizens with specific questions or concerns should contact Forestry and Beautification at 803-545-3860 or SCE&G at 1-800-251-7234 to meet and discuss in advance of the work being completed.

The trimming will be completed by SCE&G contractors and work will be closely monitored by the City's 4 Certified Arborists from the Forestry and Beautification Division.

The purpose of the trimming activities is to increase safety and reliability of the electric service. SCE&G reports an 89% improvement in reliability in vegetation related outages in areas where trimming is completed compared to a year ago. The trimming guidelines include removing vegetation within 8-12 feet below and beside the power lines and up to 20 feet above the power lines.

SCE&G and their contractors trim in accordance with International Society of Arboriculture guidelines, using ANSI A300 pruning methods leaving good cuts that will generate new growth.

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For more information about SCE&G's tree trimming efforts, including helpful tips and suggestions regarding the planting of trees and other vegetation, visit www.sceg.com/treetrimming.

You can also contact SCE&G's 24 hour Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-800-251-7234 or email SCEGContactUs@SCANA.com

For continued updates from the city of Columbia follow us on Twitter [@cityofcolumbia](https://twitter.com/cityofcolumbia) or "like" the [City of Columbia](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcolumbia) on Facebook.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 31, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

City of Columbia to Host 2015 Back-to-School Bash

The City of Columbia's 2015 Back-to-School Bash — a free event for elementary, middle and high school students — will be held on Saturday, August 8 at Finlay Park.

The bash will feature a book bag and school supply giveaway, health screenings, a health and wellness zone, entertainment, fitness challenges, exhibitors and more! Children must be present to receive a book bag and school supplies.

The event is free and open to the public.

WHERE: Finlay Park, 930 Laurel Street, Columbia, SC 29201

WHEN: Saturday, August 8, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, please call 803-545-3100 or email kcmitchell@columbiasc.net.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 31, 2015

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

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The City of Columbia’s Parks and Recreation Department annual summer movie and concert series is underway.

The Summer Movie Series held at Riverfront Park ends tonight with the showing of “The Croods.” The series features family-friendly entertainment through games, face painting and more prior to the start of the movie. The event begins at 7 p.m.

The Summer Concert Series, the annual concert series showcasing a variety of musical acts, is held at Finlay Park. The concerts are held from 8 - 10 p.m.

All concerts and movies are free and open to the public.

The following movies are free and open to the public:

- July 31: “The Croods”

The following concerts are free and open to the public:

- August 1: LTD
- August 15: Midnight Star

Attendees can bring blankets, lawn chairs and coolers. No glass containers and alcoholic beverages allowed. For more information, please visit the [Parks and Recreation Department’s Calendar of Events](#) or call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-310



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 31, 2015

Contact: Office of the City Clerk at 803-545-3045

City Council Meeting Agenda

The Columbia City Council will conduct a work session on Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at noon. The agenda is attached for your review.